

## Message Text

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ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 EB-07 IGA-02

AGR-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 COME-00 /056 W

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P 231635Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2506

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, TS

SUBJ: STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS ON PL 480 TITLE I WHEAT  
AGREEMENT

REF: TUNIS 2715

1. EMBOFF AND USAID OFFICER ATTENDED INITIAL PART OF APR 20 IN-HOUSE MEETING OF TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES NOTED REFTEL, IN ORDER SET FORTH SUPPLEMENTAL UNDERSTANDINGS AND EXPLANATIONS CONTAINED IN NEGOTIATING INSTRUCTIONS PARTS I AND II FORWARDED STATE 57111 AND 74 AIDTO CIRC A-487. EMBOFFS WENT TO CONSIDERABLE LENGTH TO ASSURE THERE WAS COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF ARTICLE III-A(4) PROVISION OF PART I PROPOSED AGREEMENT RE LIMITATION ON EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES DEFINED ITEM IV PART II, AND PROVIDED FULL WRITTEN TRANSLATION IN FRENCH OF APPROPRIATE SECTIONS OF NEGOTIATING INSTRUCTION OF 74 AIDTO CIRC A-487, PARTICULARLY SECTION 5C.

2. IN COURSE OF DISCUSSIONS, TUNISIANS RAISED SEVERAL QUESTIONS, MOST OF WHICH WERE SATISFACTORILY ANSWERED FROM AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS. SEEMED TO BE SOME CONFUSION OVER APPLICABLE FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES FOR CONVERSION  
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TO DINARS FOR THIS PARTICULAR PROPOSED AGREEMENT.

EMBASSY REP NOTED ALTHOUGH ITEM II OF PART II--PARTICULAR PROVISIONS--DESCRIBES PAYMENT TERMS AS "CONVERTIBLE LOCAL CURRENCY CREDIT," THAT INITIAL PAYMENT, INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS, AND INTEREST PAYMENTS ACTUALLY TO BE MADE IN US DOLLARS AS NOTED PARA 3 STATE 57111 AND ARTICLE II H PART I--GENERAL PROVISIONS--AND THAT "CURRENCY USE PAYMENT" SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED. THUS, QUESTION OF APPLICABLE EXCHANGE RATES FOR PAYMENTS SHOULD POSE NO PROBLEMS. US SIDE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATE TO DETERMINE DINAR VALUE OF SALES PROCEEDS TO BE USED FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES IS CLEARLY DEFINED IN ARTICLE II F OF PART I. PLEASE INDICATE SOONEST IF OUR UNDERSTANDING NOT RPT NOT CORRECT.

3. TUNISIANS INDICATED THAT NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IS INCREASINGLY ASKING THAT ALL SUCH AGREEMENTS ALSO BE CONCLUDED IN FRENCH VERSION. WHEN EMBOFF POINTED OUT THAT INSISTENCE ON OFFICIAL FRENCH TEXT COULD DELAY SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT WHICH IS QUITE LONG SINCE IT NOW INCLUDES REVISED PREAMBLE AND PARTS I, II AND III, TUNISIAN OFFICIAL SAID HE WOULD DETERMINE WHETHER GOT DESIRES FRENCH TEXT AND WILL INFORM EMBASSY/USAID.

4. WHILE TUNISIANS SEEMED TO ACCEPT ALL TERMS OF PROPOSED AGREEMENT IN COURSE OF APR 20 MEETING, THEY HAVE NOT YET COMMUNICATED GOT'S FORMAL ACCEPTANCE AND SET SIGNING DATE. WE HAVE BEEN PRESSING FOR DECISION, POINTING OUT TIME LIMITATIONS ON DELIVERY PERIOD, AND SUGGESTED SIGNING DATE OF APR 29 OR 30. TUNISIANS NOTED THAT BOTH DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND HIS DEPUTY WILL BE GONE NEXT WEEK AND THAT CONCURRENCE AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL OF SEVERAL MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES MUST STILL BE OBTAINED.

5. IN EVENT GOT INSISTS UPON FRENCH TEXT OF AGREEMENT, WE WOULD APPRECIATE LOCAL AUTHORITY TO CERTIFY THAT FRENCH TRANSLATION ALREADY PREPARED BY POST FOR NEGOTIATING PURPOSES CONFORMS TO ENGLISH-LANGUAGE TEXT IN ACCORDANCE 11 FAM 722.6. FORWARDING FULL TEXT FOR CERTIFICATION IN WASHINGTON COULD SERIOUSLY DELAY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONCLUSION OF AGREEMENT. AS ALTERNATIVE, WE WILL SEE WHETHER TUNISIANS WOULD ACCEPT THAT AGREEMENT BE CONCLUDED ONLY IN ENGLISH BUT THAT EMBASSY ATTACH UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION WITH APPROPRIATE CONSULAR STATEMENT THAT TRANSLATION CORRESPONDS TO ENGLISH TEXT. NOT CERTAIN, HOWEVER, WHETHER LATTER PROCEDURE WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO GOT. PLEASE ADVISE.  
KING

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** EAGR, ETRD, TS  
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